GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:841
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
NEW PROGRAMME FOR WELFARE OF MINORITIES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union Government has launched any new programme for welfare of minorities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any target has been fixed by the Union Government to achieve the programme and any instructions have been given to the State Governments for achieving the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide a fair share for minorities in the Central and State services in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R. ANTULAY)

(a) & (b) The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was announced in June 2006. The details of the programme are available at website 'www.minorityaffairs.gov.in'.

(c) & (d) The programme envisages, wherever possible, earmarking of 15% of targets and outlays for the minorities under the schemes included in the programme to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities. Targets have been earmarked for schemes included in the programme which are considered amenable to earmarking and have been conveyed by the Ministries/ Departments concerned to the State Government/UT Administration.

(e) The Department of Personnel & Training has issued guidelines on 8.1.2007 to all the Ministries / Departments for ensuring fair representation to the minorities in Government employment, including public sector enterprises, public sector banks and financial institutions and the Railways.